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## GENERAL NEWS.

The Baltimore Sun of yesterday says:—A telegram from Martinsburg, at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, from Mr. C. Westbrook, superintendent of the line, announces that Colonel John R. Kenley, of the First Maryland Regiment, had arrived in Martinsburg. He was wounded, but not so seriously as to prevent him from walking about. He was taken prisoner by the Confederates as before stated, but subsequently released on his parole of honor. Col. K. expressed himself to parties in Martinsburg as highly pleased with the treatment he had received at the hands of the Confederates, and when informed of the statements made by parties who professed to have witnessed the fight at Front Royal, as to the barbarous treatment of the wounded by the Confederates, he was both chagrined and indignant. Col. Kenley is expected to reach Baltimore to-day. He will not return again to duty until an exchange is effected for him."

The Washington Republican argues that "the vast region which we call the South, is substantially unoccupied, that the people who now inhabit it are altogether too few to determine its permanent character, and that no insurmountable obstacles exist there to the operation of those great currents of emigration, which, at this age of the world, flow now in this direction, and now in that, and which create before our eyes new peoples and new civilizations in so many quarters."

Dr. Manuel C. Causten, of Washington, who was taken prisoner in June last, has returned to Washington, being one of the prisoners sent home on parole from Salisbury prison, N. C. Dr. Causten says the prisoners were tolerably well treated there, but had been put on half rations for the last six or eight weeks, showing the straits the Confederates were getting to in the provision line. Some fifteen hundred prisoners had been confined at Salisbury, including three or four hundred civilians, many of whom were North Carolinians. Col. Cameron was amongst the prisoners, and he was in bad health, from general debility.

An account is given by a person present with the army of Gen. Banks on its retreat from Strasburg, published in the Washington Star. He affirms that the Federal prisoners in Winchester were generally treated well—that there was no killing of the sick or wounded, &c. He saw on the road a Federal prisoner struck by a Confederate guard and cursed. He states that Col. Ashby was wounded in the shoulder at Front Royal, and rode in an ambulance to Martinsburg.

In Washington a few hours' rain will cause the streets to become almost impassible with mud, and then a few hours' sunshine will cause the very opposite extreme of dust.

The Chicago Tribune states that since Gen. Halleck took command at Pleasant Landing the Federal army has been as mobile as the story may sound, more than 200 miles of fortifications, and full two hundred miles of wagon roads. Four parallels, each more than twelve miles in length; three or four roads—wide, corduroyed and bridged—leading from the landing to each corps d'armee.

Gov. Andrew having decided that no more Irish regiments should be raised in Massachusetts unless officered by Americans, has caused considerable excitement among the Irish citizens of Boston. On Saturday evening a large meeting was held and the course of the Governor denounced in strong language.

Mr. Wallach, the Mayor of Washington, in a speech, on the night of the municipal election, denied that he sympathized with abolitionism—denounced the scheme of educating negroes in the schools for white children—objected to taking taxes paid by negroes to support schools for white children—but was in favor of reserving these taxes for the education of the negroes themselves.

In the U. S. Senate, yesterday, Mr. Bayard called up the House bill to punish polygamy in the United States, and disapproving and annulling certain acts of the Territory of Utah. The said bill was then advocated by Messrs. Bayard, Hale and others; when it was passed.

Ex-Gov. Neil S. Brown, of Tennessee, it is said, in a recent speech at Columbia, Tenn., renounced Secession—and avowed his opinion to be that it was no longer possible or proper to hold out against the Federal government. Tennessee, he thought, was lost to the Confederacy.

The St. Louis News, of Friday, has accounts from before Corinth, of an improved state of health of Gen. Halleck's army. The terrible sickness that prevailed three weeks ago, disabling and incapacitating for duty near one-sixth of the army, has almost entirely disappeared.

Col. Chas. A. DeVilliers, Eleventh Regiment Ohio Volunteers, has been dismissed the service for seizing goods and appropriating the proceeds to his own use; also for arresting persons and refusing to release them until paid a ransom.

On account of the recent battles near Richmond, it is anticipated that a number of wounded soldiers will soon be transported to Washington, and hence many invalids, in hospitals, thereabouts, are being sent farther North.

It is now said that the U. S. Naval officers and seamen have not yet received their shares of prize money for recent captures, the funds being still in the hands of the U. S. District Attorneys.

Mr. Segar has addressed a large Union meeting in Portsmouth, Va. Several of the citizens of Norfolk have taken the oath of allegiance.

The great plain in the eastern part of England, known as the Fens, has been overflowed by the tide breaking through the barriers erected against it. That section, watered by the Ouse, the Neve, and other rivers, comprises over one thousand square miles as level and low as Holland.

On Sunday evening, Rev. Henry Ward Beecher closed his sermon by an allusion to the recent action of Gov. Stanley, of North Carolina, in closing the schools for blacks that had been opened by Mr. Vincent Colyer. He spoke very earnestly, and took an unusually despairing view, founded upon this action of Gov. Stanley. He hoped that the President would allow the schools to continue. If they have been closed by order of the President, or with his previously given assent, he thought it very extraordinary.

The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger says:—"Some little uneasiness was created to-day by an announcement by the Commissioners of Health, that the yellow fever had prevailed to some extent on board the Spanish man-of-war Ulloa, on Saturday last.—The health officer has been instructed not to permit the vessel to approach nearer than three miles to the city, and to see to it that no communication be had with her, except such official intercourse as may be unavoidable. The disease, it would seem, prevailed on board the steamer while on her passage from Vera Cruz to Havana, and while at the latter port, it is said there were several fatal cases, but during the voyage here there was little or no sickness."

The Atlanta (Ga.) Confederacy says that William Gillmore Simms, the South Carolinian author, poet and novelist—is among the most unfortunate men of the day. He lost all his property and sources of income by the disruption of the country, the publishers and the holders of his copy rights residing in the North. He had fourteen children. Lately he buried nine of them; and a few days ago his house and all of his effects were consumed by fire.—Nothing was saved from the general ruin but his library.

A number of the prominent citizens of Wheeling, Va., charged with being secessionists, have been arrested within a few days, and required to take the oath of allegiance or go to prison. Thomas Hughes, a well-known clothier, and Judge Thompson refused, and were sent to jail. The Wheeling Intelligencer says:—"We understand the judge's position to be about as follows: He is required to take an oath to support the constitution of the United States and the restored government of Virginia. The judge claims that the "restored" government exists in violation of the constitution of the United States, and that, being required to take the two oaths together, he violates the one in assuming the other."

A Confederate prisoner attempted to escape from Governor's Island, on Monday, by floating off on a raft, but was detected and captured.